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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims without prejudice or disclaimer to read as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A user interface of a smart compact device comprising:
a display screen configured to report position information, said display screen adapted to communicate with an activating object disposed in at least one of a touching state and a proximate non-touching state; and
means configured to display data on said display screen responsive to said activating object being disposed in said proximate non-touching state for a selected time period; and
means configured to hide at least a portion of said data responsive to said activating object being disposed in said touching state.
2. ^{*Presented*} (Previously ~~Considered~~) The user interface of claim 1, wherein said selected time period is of a duration that ends substantially immediately after said activating object is disposed in said proximate non-touching state.
3. ^{*Presented*} (Previously ~~Considered~~) The user interface of claim 1, wherein said selected time period is a short length of time.
4. (Cancelled).
5. ^{*Presented*} (Previously ~~Considered~~) The user interface of claim 1, wherein said display screen includes an inductive sensing system.
6. ^{*Presented*} (Previously ~~Considered~~) The user interface of claim 1, wherein said user interface employs a ratiometric measurement technique with a plurality of coils that each extend across a sensing area.

7. (~~Previously Considered~~ ^{Presented}) The user interface of claim 1, wherein said smart compact device displays said data in a window.

8-13. (Cancelled)

14. (~~Previously Considered~~ ^{Presented}) The user interface of claim 1, wherein once said data has been displayed, touching said activating object to said display screen substantially on said data causes a first action to occur, said first action being different from a second action that would have occurred if said data had not been displayed.

15. (~~Previously Considered~~ ^{Presented}) The user interface of claim 1, wherein said smart compact device is a handheld device.

16. (~~Previously Considered~~ ^{Presented}) The user interface of claim 1, wherein said activating object is selected from the group consisting of a finger and a pen.

17. (Currently Amended) A method for presenting and manipulating information in a user interface of a smart compact device, comprising: ~~providing a display screen configured to report position information, said display screen adapted to communicate with an activating object disposed in at least one of a touching state and a proximate non-touching state, the method comprising the steps of:~~

~~coupling at least one processing element with said activating object;~~

~~operating control software for said activating object;~~

~~determining if said activating object is in said proximate non-touching state;~~

~~displaying data responsive to said activating object being disposed in said proximate non-touching state for a selected time period; and~~

~~controlling said data on said display screen to hide second data responsive to said activating object being disposed in said proximate non-touching state.~~

18. ^{Presented}
(Previously Considered) The method of claim 17, wherein said selected time period is of a length of time that ends substantially immediately after said determining if said activating object is in said proximate non-touching state.

19. (Previously Considered) The method of claim 17, wherein said selected time period is a short length of time.

20. (Cancelled).

21. ^{Presented}
(Previously Considered) The method of claim 17, wherein said display screen includes user-interface-employs an inductive sensing system.

22. ^{Presented}
(Previously Considered) The method of claim 17, wherein said user interface employs a ratiometric measurement technique with a plurality of coils that each extend across a sensing area.

23. ^{Presented}
(Previously Considered) The method of claim 17, wherein said smart compact device displays said data in a windows.

24.-29. (Cancelled).

30. ^{Presented}
(Previously Considered) The method of claim 17, wherein once said data has been displayed, touching said activating object to said display screen substantially on said data causes a first action to occur, said first action being different from a second action that would have occurred if said data had not been displayed.

31. ^{Presented}
(Previously Considered) The method of claim 17, wherein said smart compact device is a handheld device.

32. (~~Previously Considered~~ ^{Presented}) The method of claim 17, wherein said activating object is selected from the group consisting of a finger and a pen.

33. (Currently Amended) A method for controlling a display of data on a user interface, ~~comprising providing~~ presented on a display screen configured to report position information, said display screen adapted to communicate with an activating object disposed in at least one of a first proximate non-touching state and a second proximate non-touching state; ~~defining said first proximate non-touching state defined by a first and a second proximity relationship between said activating object and said display screen; respectively, the method comprising the steps of:~~

~~defining said second proximate non-touching state by a second proximity relationship between said activating object and said display screen;~~
sensing a sensed relationship between said activating object and said display screen;
determining if said sensed relationship is said first proximity relationship;
displaying a first group of data on said display screen following a selected time period if said sensed relationship is said first proximity relationship;
determining if said sensed relationship is said second proximity relationship; and
displaying a second group of data on said display screen if said sensed relationship is said second proximity relationship; and
controlling said display screen to hide at least a portion of said second group of data responsive to said activating object being disposed in said first proximity relationship.

34. (~~Previously Considered~~ ^{Presented}) The method of claim 33, wherein said first proximity relationship includes a first function related to a distance between said activating object and said display screen.

35. (Cancelled).

36. (Previously ^{presented} Considered) The method of claim 33, wherein said sensing said sensed relationship occurs for a pre-selected period of time.

37. (Original) The user interface of claim 1, wherein said display screen is adapted to communicate with an activating object disposed in at least one of said touching state, said proximate non-touching state, and a third state.

38. (Original) The user interface of claim 37, wherein said third state is a second proximate non-touching state different from said proximate non-touching state.

39. (Original) The user interface of claim 3, wherein said short length of time is approximately one second.

40. (Original) The user interface of claim 1, wherein said data includes textual data.

41. (Original) The user interface of claim 1, wherein said data includes a graphic.

42. (Original) The user interface of claim 1, wherein said data includes a control object.

43. (Original) The user interface of claim 1, wherein said data includes additional data.

44. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein said display screen is adapted to communicate with an activating object disposed in at least one of said touching state, said proximate non-touching state, and a third state.

45. (Original) The method of claim 44, wherein said third state is a second proximate non-touching state different from said proximate non-touching state.

46. (Original) The method of claim 17, further comprising:
determining if said activating object is in said touching state; and
hiding at least a portion of said data if said activating object is in said touching state.

47. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein said short length of time is approximately one second.

48. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein said data includes textual data.

49. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein said data includes a graphic.

50. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein said data includes a control object.

51. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein said data includes additional data.

52. (Original) The method of claim 33, wherein said second group of data is displayed a second selected time period after said determining if said sensed relationship is said second proximity relationship.

53. (Original) The method of claim 34, wherein said second proximity relationship includes a second function related to said distance between said activating object and said display screen, said second function being different from said first function.

54. (Original) The method of claim 33, wherein said second proximity relationship includes a user-controlled parameter of said user interface.

55. (Original) The method of claim 54, wherein said user-controlled parameter is defined by a switch coupled to said activating object.

56. (Original) The method of claim 55, wherein said switch is a button.

57. (New) The user interface of claim 1 wherein said smart compact device is a personal digital assistant (PDA).

58. (New) The user interface of claim 1 wherein said smart compact device is a mobile phone.

59. (New) The user interface of claim 1 wherein said smart compact device is a media player.

60. (New) The user interface of claim 1 wherein said smart compact device is a digital camera.

61. (New) The user interface of claim 1 wherein said smart compact device is a digital video device.

62. (New) The user interface of claim 1 wherein said smart compact device executes a SYMBIAN operating system.

63. (New) The user interface of claim 1 wherein said smart compact device executes a LINUX operating system.

64. (New) The user interface of claim 1 wherein said smart compact device executes a WINDOWS operating system.

65. (New) The user interface of claim 1 wherein said hiding means is configured to completely hide said data.

66. (New) The user interface of claim 1 wherein said hiding means is configured to hide said portion of said data by overlaying additional data over said portion of said data.

67. (New) The user interface of claim 1 wherein said hiding means is configured to hide said portion of said data by restoring the portion of the display screen previously obscured by said data.

68. (New) The method of claim 17 wherein said controlling step further comprises completely hiding said data.

69. (New) The method of claim 17 wherein said controlling step comprises overlaying additional data over said portion of said data to thereby hide said data.

70. (New) The method of claim 17 wherein said controlling step comprises restoring the portion of the display screen previously obscured by said data to thereby hide said data.

71. (New) The method of claim 33 wherein said controlling step further comprises completely hiding said portion of said second group of data.

72. (New) The method of claim 33 wherein said controlling step comprises overlaying additional data over said portion of said second group of data to thereby hide said second group of data.

73. (New) The method of claim 33 wherein said controlling step comprises restoring at least a portion of the first group of data obscured by said second group of data.

74. (New) A method for presenting and manipulating information in a user interface of a smart compact device comprising a display screen configured to report position information, said display screen adapted to communicate with an activating object disposed in at least one of a touching state and a proximate non-touching state, the method comprising the steps of:

determining if said activating object is in said proximate non-touching state;

displaying data responsive to said activating object being disposed in said proximate non-touching state for a selected time period;

determining if said activating object is in said touching state; and

hiding at least a portion of said data if said activating object is in said touching state.